



BITS OF GOLD

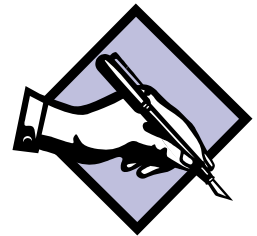
Montana Talking Book Library

A Department of the Montana State Library
Regional Library of the National Library Service
for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
(NLS/BPH)

Volume 107, Number 1

August 2007

LIBRARIAN'S LOG: from the desk of Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian.



Reader Adviser Fondly Remembered: As many of you may know, Janet Hunter, reader adviser, passed away suddenly in October, 2006. Janet was a kind person, teacher, colleague, friend, animal lover and Reader Adviser extraordinaire. She read extensively and enjoyed serving library patrons almost as much as she loved her animals and friends. She is dearly missed.

AmeriCorps*VISTA Volunteer Joins Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL): We are pleased Brian McCutcheon chose to come to the MTBL and volunteer with two projects. Brian is conducting outreach visits to rural public libraries for MTBL. As well, he is building an information and referral website for Low Vision Montana, Inc., bringing low vision resources together in one place. Brian is conducting his one year volunteer service for both organizations out of his office at MTBL. Brian joins us from Alabama and is fast learning about Montana and visual services. He has already traveled (along with staff Sandy Stanton and Lee Madison) to Bigfork, Thompson Falls, Lewistown, and Bozeman. Over the next 3 months trips to Anaconda, Hot Springs, Cut Bank, Havre, Polson, Miles City and Hamilton are planned. Patron invitation postcards will be mailed in those areas announcing the date, time and place we will be meeting. We hope you can join us! Please welcome Brian to Montana.

Digital Cost Request Sent to Congress: The National Library Service (NLS) has made their budget request to Congress for the planned upgrade to digital books and players. We greatly appreciate those patrons who mailed, e-mailed or phoned their congressional leaders asking for their support of this issue. We'll keep you informed on the progress and process of the NLS digital plans!

New Reader Adviser Welcomed: Linda Miles was hired in March, 2007. She serves one-third of our patrons whose last names start with A-G. Linda has a background in teaching, and loves to read. She is a welcome addition to our services. She wasted no time in calling her patrons to get acquainted with their reading needs. Please join me in welcoming Linda!



SUMMER READING PROGRAM. The summer reading program for children ages 7-14 is underway. The theme is “Get a Clue @ Your Library”. Participants contract to read a certain number of books and can do activities for extra points to win prizes and certificates.

WAITING FOR A BOOK? We have a record number of patrons on waiting lists for new books. Please return your books as soon as you have finished reading them so that others may enjoy them too. **Peg and Clara**, two of our many volunteers, have been calling patrons to remind them of overdue books. The library really appreciates their efforts; the calls have resulted in many long-lost books being found and returned.

DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO STATUS REPORT. These VHS tapes are available to MTBL patrons in Montana after they have been on book service for six months. A catalog is available on request; we have over 300 titles. Your choice is not always available because some are lost or overdue and/or we often have only one copy of the video. The checkout period for descriptive videos is ONE WEEK. If you have forgotten to return a film, please do so promptly - others are waiting!

WEBOPAC USERS: Some hints for using WEBOPAC:

- Use the HELP link on the left of the WEBOPAC search page to help in your search.
- To search a topic, enter the broad subject (e.g., “religion”) and click on “browse subject.”
- Ask us! Click on the e-mail link and we will respond to your questions, or call 1-800-332-3400, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays. Contact us if you have forgotten or want to change your password.
- If you are planning to order books during your session, it is helpful to enter your ID and password first.



A NOTE ABOUT PATRON “PROFILES”. When you originally started service with Montana Talking Books, we noted your preferences for certain subjects, authors, and book series. We also noted any objections to your receiving books with strong language, explicit sex, or violence. As time goes by, you may have changed your interests. If you would like to expand your subject or author list, or are less interested in a particular subject, please contact your reader advisor. This is also true for the number of books you are receiving.

REGARDING EXCLUSIONS: Few westerns are without some violence, few romances without some sex, few mysteries without some strong language. The modifying word is “some”. If you have requested books with any of the three

exclusions and are on an automatic service, you likely will not receive certain books that have been coded with these exclusions, even though the subjects or authors were of interest. Again, please call your reader advisor if you have any question; he or she can help you get the particular book you want.



TIP FROM YOUR MACHINE LENDING AGENT, LEE MADISON: If you are using a C-1 machine, be sure to unplug it when you are listening to your book. And, if you have a machine or other equipment that is not being used, please return it to the Montana Talking Book Library.

DONATIONS AND MEMORIALS 2006

The Montana Talking Book Library staff appreciates the thoughtfulness of those who contributed to our library in 2006. Acknowledgements are sent to all donors. Our patrons enjoy many years of pleasure from these gifts. Please remember to include the name of the person for whom a memorial is made and the name and address of those to be notified. All gifts are tax-deductible. Many thanks and blessings to the following contributors:

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Mabel Young—Linda Mengwasser; Roger & Marcia Pauli; Neil & Gaye Pritchett; Albert Rosenberger; Barbara Schlabs; Robert & Karen Saurey; Jerry & Karen Slack.

PATRON PICKS: The following books are patron recommendations.

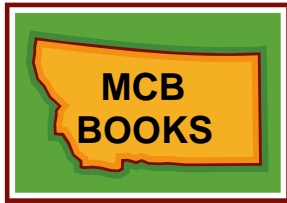
RC 60791 Feet on the Street by Roy Blount. (Author takes the reader on a walking tour of New Orleans describing its history, weather, food, and colorful residents, and speculates on problems that could occur because the city is situated below sea level).

MCB 345 Mouthful of Toes by Eleanor Fraser Huntsberger. (Humorous memoir about the abject poverty experienced by the author and a family of fifteen children growing up on ranches in the 1920s and 1930s near Ulm and Great Falls).

RC 59112 Senator Mansfield: the Extraordinary Life of a Great American Statesman and Diplomat by Don Oberdorfer. (“...a great history review; Montana should be proud to have had such a man as their senator”—patron).

MCB 792 Legacy: a novel by Leonard Schonberg. (a novel about a family’s story that begins in Austria and ends in Butte, MT)

MAGAZINE CONTAINERS REMINDER. If you are receiving magazines through Montana Talking Book Library, please return them when you have read the issues. We recycle both the cassettes and the green boxes and are running low on supplies!

**MONTANA CASSETTE BOOKS:**

Recorded from July, 2006 to June, 2007.

ADULT NON-FICTION

MCB 728 Mike Mansfield, Majority Leader by Francis R. Valeo. This book is a political biography of Mike Mansfield's involvement and accomplishments as Majority Leader in the US Senate and his influence on foreign relations and policy.

MCB 788 Up On The Rim: A Western History Classic by Roger A. Freeman. This book is a biography of Dale Eunson's boyhood days on a homestead in central Montana. The ever-changing adventure of family relationships and farm life, enhanced by a remarkable collie dog vividly recreates the time and place of Eunson's childhood.

MCB 795 The River of the West: The Adventures of Joe Meek, Volume 2 by Frances Fuller Victor. This book is volume 2 of an historical account of the adventures of Joe Meek, a legendary mountain man and fur trapper of the Rocky Mountains, and the settling of the Oregon Territory. Some strong language and violence.

MCB 818 The Undying West: A Chronicle of Montana's Camas Prairie by Carlene Cross. Cross tells a semi-biographical story as it relates to the historical and pre-historical events as they affected the Pacific Northwest and Camas Prairie Region of Northwest Montana.

MCB 819 The Longest Silence: A Life in Fishing by Thomas McGuane. These essays take us from the tarpon of Florida to the salmon of Iceland, from the bonefish of Mexico to the trout of Montana. They bring us characters like a highly literate Canadian frontiersman and a devoutly Mormon river guide and issues ranging from the esoteric art of tying flies to the enduring philosophy of a 17th century angler.

MCB 829 Beyond Spirit Tailings: Montana's Mysteries, Ghosts, and Haunted Places by Ellen Baumler. Montana is alive with things that go bump in the Big Sky night. Baumler again offers ghostly encounters and eerie and mysterious tales that will leave you always craving for more.

MCB 833 A Lady's Ranch Life in Montana by Isabel F. Randall. In 1884 Isabel Randall and her husband, Jem, homesteaded on a Montana horse ranch hoping to make their fortune. Letters she sends home to England contain colorful descriptions of animals, daily life, and rural social interactions. It has a surprising and sobering conclusion.

MCB 838 Lookout Cookbook: A Collection of Recipes by Forest Fire Lookouts by Libby Langston. This is a collection of recipes from 1933 to 2004 of breakfast, lunch, dinner and desserts made in various Montana, Idaho and Oregon Forest Fire Lookouts. It includes the history of Forest Fire Lookouts and insights about life as a Forest Fire Lookout.

MCB 845 Brown Dog of the Yaak, Essays on Art and Activism by Rick Bass. Four essays combining the authors love of the creative process and his efforts in environmental activism with the memories of his lost hunting dog, Colter, who is the brown dog of the Yaak.

MCB 847 Great Montana Bear Stories by Ben Long. This book contains true stories about grizzly bears and black bears and the people who encountered them. Descriptions of violence.

MCB 851 Montana Justice: Power, Punishment, & the Penitentiary by Keith Edgerton. In 1871, the federal government funded a penitentiary in Deer Lodge, MT when it achieved statehood in 1889. This book provides a social history of the Montana State Penitentiary, with a primary focus on its early, formative years.

MCB 852 Montana Braille TwinVision/Tactile Catalog by the Montana Talking Book Library. This is a catalog of Braille TwinVision/Tactile books available from the Montana Talking Book Library. The majority of the collection is for juvenile (K-12) readers.

MCB 854 Vigilante Woman by Virginia Rowe Towle. This book is about the lives and loves of seven stout-hearted frontier women who resided either in Virginia City or Bannack, Montana, during the reign of the Montana Vigilantes and reveals the quiet courage, the cool daring, and the bravery of these vigilante women.

MCB 855 In This We Are Native: On Going Away and Coming Home by Annick Smith. A collection of essays by a woman who recounts her life in Montana and the wider world, alone and in the company of those she loves.

MCB 856 Verbivore's Feast: A Banquet of Word & Phrase Origins by Chrysti the Wordsmith. Chrysti the Wordsmith tracks the history of some of our most familiar words and phrases- through ancestral legends, customs, and cultures uncovering the living complexity of our ever-changing language. This book contains explanations of the derivation of some 300 plus English words.

MCB 862 Still Speaking Ill of the Dead: More Jerks in Montana History by Jon Axline and Jodie Foley. 1800's to present. This collection of essays carefully documents and exposes the lives of individual men, women, laws, and corporations to uncover a complicated and fascinating history of Montana and its people. Many had bad reputations as "jerks", others were murderers, scoundrels, and unethical people.

MCB 863 Senior Reflections: Montana's Unclaimed Treasure by Berma Saxton. Residents from around Montana in assisted-living and extended-care facilities tell us about their reminiscences and include memoirs and poetry of early life in Montana.

MCB 864 One Night in a Bad Inn: A True Story by Christy Leskovar. A story of two colorful immigrant families who lived through remarkable sagas of a notorious matriarch, two daring fugitives, a heroic Irish doughboy, and a beautiful, inspiring lady across the parched plains of eastern Montana to a raucous mining town to the bloody battlefields of the First World War.

MCB 866 Piece of Cake Scotty, Piece of Cake by Scotty Zion. 1925-1985 Rocky Mountain Front & Great Falls, Montana. This book contains short stories of the life and times of Scotty Zion. It is a poignant slice of his past, steeped in the Homestead Era and his fifty-plus years as Montana's premier house mover.

MCB 868 The Vocational Rehabilitation Process: A Handbook for Clients and Applicants by The Montana Advocacy Program, Client Assistance. This guide was developed to assist people with disabilities, their families, and advocates and describes some of the programs, rules, methods, and standards for getting rehabilitation and independent living services. And describes how best to be a self-advocate to get the services a person needs.

MCB 869 The Jealous Mistress by Robert Traver. American Law up to 1960's. The law is a jealous mistress. The author who is a former lawyer and judge reflects on actual legal cases. An expedition into the mysteries of law, Traver writes his satirical and practical observations of the law, its progression through history and its impact upon modern society.

MCB 891 Walk With Wonder by Sister Alice Mary Glennon. A collection of poems by Sister Alice Mary Glennon, OP, who retired in Billings, MT. Her poems include compositions of seasons, feelings, love, and family. She is from the Sinsinawa Dominican Congregation of the Most Holy Rosary, Sinsinawa, Wisconsin; an apostolic community founded by Fr. Samuel Mazzuchelli in 1847.

MCB 892 Montana Magazine of Western History: 2005 by Montana Historical Society. Contains the 2005 Issues: Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter. Articles in the magazines showcase the people, places, issues, controversies, events, and new discoveries that shape and involve the history and future of Montana and the West.

ADULT FICTION

MCB 798 Brothers in Kickapoo by Dan Cushman. Set in the 1950's in the small Eastern town of Westboro, Will Watney, local leading insurance man, is trying to increase economic growth in his town and glean the recognition. His plans backfire and he ends up finding true friendship and success while discovering himself.

MCB 813 Thorson of Thunder Gulch by Norman A. Fox. 1860's Montana Gold Camp. Tod Thorson got his first taste of Thunder Gulch, a kill-crazy Montana boomtown, when he is unexpectedly elected sheriff and opposes Matthew Fee's bad influence and the crimes of Road Agents who murder and steal from the miners. Some descriptions of violence.

MCB 815 The Devil's Saddle by Norman A. Fox. Rowdy Dow has been hired to find Griffins Gold. He is assisted by Stumpy and opposed by Jake Kilhorn and his lawless band from the Winged-H Ranch. A Silver Star Western.

MCB 816 The Childhood of Sherlock Holmes: The Butler's Tale by Mona Morstein. A fictional biographical tale as told by the family butler, Percy Brewster,

about the dysfunctional childhood of the legendary master sleuth Sherlock Holmes and his brother Mycroft. Strong language and descriptions of violence.

MCB 817 Cowboy Angst: A Novel by Jasen Emmons. Set in the 1980's Dennis McCance, a young musician, drops out of law school, and moves home. While playing in his band "Cowboy Angst", he falls in love with his old bandmate. Sibling rivalry complicates an already tense homecoming. Strong language, explicit descriptions of sex and violence.

MCB 822 Ghost Hunting in Montana: A Search for Roots in the Old West by Barnaby Conrad III. Summer of 1989. Barnaby Conrad jumps in his car and hits the road for parts unknown to discover the mysteries of the "Old West." For five months, he journeys nine thousand miles through all the rough terrain of the Montana landscape in search of adventure and the history of his family roots.

MCB 839 Amos: To Ride a Dead Horse by Stanley Gordon West. After a tragic accident that kills his wife and leaves him with a shattered hip, no family and penniless, Amos is deposited into the county poor farm, Sunset Home, outside a small Montana town in the early 1960's. He believes his life is over and resolves to let go and die quickly, isolating himself from the other residents. Under head nurse Daisy Daw's iron-clad rule, he notices small cruelties and injustices but attempts to ignore them, until an unthinkable horror witnessed by chance in the middle of the night reawakens his deeply felt sense of justice. Strong language.

MCB 840 Morning Light (Lige Mounts: Free Trapper) by Frank B. Linderman. Lige leaves home to see the West in the mid-1800's. He joins a band of trappers and they camp near a Cree village on the Marias River. The book is a realistic description of life on the frontier and describes the Cree culture. Descriptions of violence.

MCB 841 In the Saddle with Uncle Bill by Will James. 1930's Montana Range Country. The misadventures of Kip and Scootie, two young kids who get lost on the range while visiting their Uncle Bill for the summer, and their relationship with an old cowboy who worked for their Uncle Bill. Some racial undertones typical of this period.

MCB 842 The White Land by William Dieter. In the 1800's, Bliss Griffith, a cowboy from Texas, drives 10,000 head of cattle to the strange land of Montana. While in Montana he learns lessons relating to snow, love and native traditions.

MCB 848 Until They Bring the Streetcars Back by Stanley Gordon West. Post-War 1949. St. Paul, Minnesota. A harmless prank, a chance conversation and Cal Gant stumbles onto the naked face of cruelty, incest and murder. When he attempts to rescue a strange and haunting girl from the slaughterhouse her life has become, he finds himself in a heart-stopping struggle with her ruthless father, leading Cal to the brink of self-doubt, terror and death itself.

MCB 849 Finding Laura Buggs by Stanley Gordon West. Post-War 1949. St. Paul, Minnesota. The story of young Sandy Meyer, who is suddenly given one perplexing clue to her past and she sets out on an incredible and harrowing journey in search of

her lost family. A companion novel to "Until They Bring the Streetcars Back" (MCB 848).

MCB 860 Waiting for Otto by Ron Rude. 1890-1990. A reconstruction of the history of Selma Wollerman. She overcomes great hardships and the loss of two husbands while raising eight children during the Great Depression on the North Dakota prairies. Selma was not a fictional character, but a true-life example of a durable immigrant woman.

MCB 861 Shadow of the Cross by Carolyn Garriott. Raised and educated within the confines of the Catholic Church, newly ordained Father Daniel Deschien finds himself posted to the Huron mission in New France. Father Daniel's story tells of a powerful new view of the Jesuit missions and introduces you to Haiki (a Huron mother) and Shadow (the wolf).

MCB 867 Yesteryears Western Trek by Don Pierre. The adventure of an 1864 wagon train headed for Montana Territory, told through the eyes of Joey, a young man coming of age, who kept a detailed journal record of the impressions of people, terrain, and daily events as he progressed north and west up the Bozeman Trail.

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

MCB 846 Underland by Nora Martin. After the disappearance of her older brother, Allysha enters a Doorway into another world to seek him, pursued by those seeking a mysterious amulet her brother had given her before he disappeared. There she finds adventure, friendship and the answer to the mystery of the "Star Stone" she wears.

JUVENILE NON-FICTION

MCB 858 How Marten Got His Spots and Other Kootenai Indian Stories by Kootenai Culture Committee. Three Kootenai stories told to help educate young tribal members about their history and culture. Stories include learning a hard lesson in obedience, the consequences of greed, the importance of listening to your elders, and a lesson in tepee construction.

MCB 859 Jeannette Rankin: First Lady of Congress by Trish Marx. This is a short telling of Jeannette Rankin's life long work. Rankin was born in Montana in 1880 and attended the newly formed University of Montana. After leading a successful campaign for women's suffrage in her home state, she was the first woman elected to the House of Representatives in 1916.

MCB 879 The Prairie Schooners by Glen Rounds. 1843-1868. Wagon trains of white-topped "prairie schooners" carried thousands of settlers on the 2,000 mile grueling trek West from Independence, Missouri to the end of the Oregon Trail. Depicted are the dangers, hardships, and social life of the journey.

MCB 894 Montana Facts and Symbols by Shelley Swanson Sateren. This book presents information about the State of Montana, its nickname, motto, and emblems.

Shelley Swanson Sateren is from St. Paul, Minnesota. Mary Boyle was Publicity Coordinator for Travel Montana and was consultant to the author. For preschool - grade 2.

JUVENILE FICTION

MCB 844 **The Search for Charlie** by Paige Dixon. Jane couldn't believe it. Charlie missing and maybe kidnapped! With the help of her young Indian friend, Vic Barrett, they go to the places that Charlie liked to visit in the woods and mountains of Montana.

MCB 878 **Spotted Flower and the Ponokomita** by K Follis Cheatham. 1730's Northern Plains, Montana. Spotted Flower sees a horse for the first time and takes information to her tribe to help save her friends.



LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON THESE HOLIDAYS:

September 3 (Labor Day)

October 8 (Columbus Day observed)

November 12 (Veterans Day observed)

November 22 (Thanksgiving Day)

...and a closing thought... "Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." (Leo Buscaglia)



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for the Blind**

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Christie Briggs, cbriggs@mt.gov
Diane Gunderson, dgunderson@mt.gov
Carolyn Meier, cameier@mt.gov
Lee Madison

Patrons with last names A-G contact:
Patrons with last names H-O contact:
Patrons with last names P-Z contact:

Linda Miles, lmiles@mt.gov
Sandra Stanton, sstanton@mt.gov
Lee Madison, lmadison@mt.gov

BITS OF GOLD EDITOR:

Sandy Stanton

For patron requests or contact information, e-mail us at: mtbl@mt.gov

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